

Prayer Matters



Prayer lives in the space between self-sufficiency and hopelessness



Psalm 32



¹ Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! ² Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! ³ When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. ⁴ Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat.

Psalm 32



1. Confessed guilt opens the door to forgiveness, joy, and peace

Psalm 32



⁵ Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, “I will confess my rebellion to the LORD.” And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone. ⁶ Therefore, let all the godly pray to you while there is still time, that they may not drown in the floodwaters of judgment.

⁷ For you are my hiding place; you protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of victory.

Psalm 32



1. Confessed guilt opens the door to forgiveness, joy, and peace
2. Confession moves me out of the shadows into the light

Psalm 32



⁸ The LORD says, “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. ⁹ Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control.” ¹⁰ Many sorrows come to the wicked, but unfailing love surrounds those who trust the LORD. ¹¹ So rejoice in the LORD and be glad, all you who obey him! Shout for joy, all you whose hearts are pure!

Psalm 32



1. Confessed guilt opens the door to forgiveness, joy, and peace
2. Confession moves me out of the shadows into the light
3. A repentant heart leads to redemptive actions

2 Corinthians 5:17-21



¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! ¹⁸ And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. ¹⁹ For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. ²⁰ So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" ²¹ For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.